

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion.

Claims 1, 3-10, 12, and 15-18 are pending. Claims 19 and 20 are canceled by the present amendment. Claims 2, 11, 13, and 14 were canceled previously. Claim 12 is amended. Support for the amendment to Claim 12 is self-evident. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Ballantine et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,274,465, herein “Ballantine”). Claims 1, 3-10, 12, and 15-18 were allowed.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 1, 3-10, 12, and 15-18 are allowed.

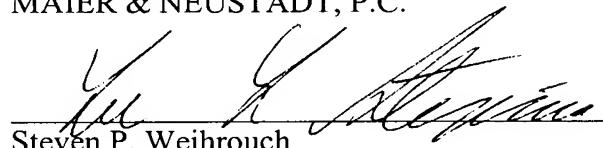
Regarding the rejection of Claims 19 and 20 as anticipated by Ballantine, Applicants respectfully submit that as Claims 19 and 20 are canceled, the rejection is negated. Claims 19 and 20 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

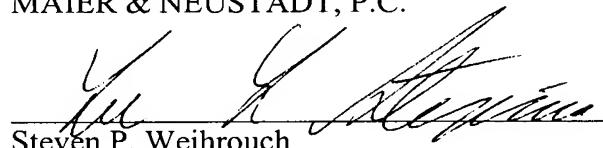
For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1, 3-10, 12, and 15-18 is earnestly solicited.

Should Examiner Luu deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, he is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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